



October 11, 2006

TO: Transportation Authority of Marin Executive Committee

FROM: Dianne Steinhauser, Executive Director

RE: Revision to Nolte Support Contract for Design Cost Increases – Soundwall and Multi-use Path, Agenda Item 9

Dear Commissioners:

Executive Summary

As final design nears completion on the Puerto Suello Hill multi-use path and sound-absorbing soundwalls, TAM staff and the Nolte team have engaged in a number of engineering work elements that were unforeseen at the time of originally scoping the project. As a result, the cost to complete the final construction package is greater than what was anticipated last Spring, when a budget for the design work was adopted. Extra efforts to redesign the bridge over Linden Avenue, to complete additional Regional Water Board permit mitigation design, and additional coordination meetings to expedite the project reviews through Caltrans are some of the new work elements that have increased the design cost. As a result, TAM staff recommend an additional \$451,200 be authorized for completion of the construction package for the multi-use path and sound-absorbing soundwalls. This brings the total design cost to \$2,161,000. For a project nearing \$18 Million in cost, this is a very reasonable total cost for environmental, design, right of way and final construction documents, especially in the time frame we did it in. The funds are available from Strategy 2 Highway 101, with available funding in this fiscal year that does not exceed funding levels anticipated in the adopted 2006 Strategic Plan.

Recommendation: Approve an amendment to the Nolte design contract to cover unforeseen work for the Puerto Suello Hill multi-use path and sound-absorbing soundwall final design and construction packaging, not to exceed \$451,200.

Strategy 2 of the Measure A Expenditure Plan specifies the completion of a north-south bicycle/pedestrian facility through Puerto Suello Hill to improve bicycle safety and the addition of sound absorptive soundwalls. Both the multi-use path and sound absorbing soundwalls will be included as elements of the Puerto Suello Hill segment of the Highway 101 GAP Closure Project (Segment 4).

As part of the on-call support services contract with Nolte Associates, Inc., the Nolte team has been providing on-going support to complete the environmental approvals, secure necessary permits, obtain right of way clearances, and complete design of the multi-use path and sound absorbing soundwall . The effort has been made more complex by the need to incorporate the almost 200 plan sheets into Caltrans completed design for the carpool lane project over Puerto

Suello Hill. The effort to include these project features has been on an accelerated schedule so as not to delay the construction of the highway project.

The level of design effort to include these project features has exceeded what was originally envisioned and estimated. The additional scope of work includes:

- Structural Redesign (Linden Bridge): Decision to change from a pre-fabricated steel truss to a concrete box girder bridge, based on Caltrans input.
- Electrical: Design of the lighted Los Ranchitos pedestrian and bike crossing plus coordination with P.G.&E. for connection points that was originally assumed to be done by Caltrans.
- Services requested by Caltrans for right-of-way determinations
- Potholing needed for utility relocations
- Additional utility coordination
- Additional storm water mitigation design and coordination needed because of Regional Water Quality Control Board stormwater requirements
- Additional coordination, meetings with Caltrans to resolve issues
- Redesign to accommodate design exceptions: soundwall in front of existing wall & reduced lane widths
- Landscaping & Irrigation: additional design necessary for future landscaping of the entire trail
- Additional rounds of Caltrans comments and resubmittals

The current approved contract amount for the design work is \$1,709,800. An additional \$451,200 is requested to finalize the design for bid advertisement and to cover the cost of the additional and out of scope work noted above. These funds are available from existing Measure A funds. The funds are available from Strategy 2 Highway 101, with available funding in this fiscal year that does not exceed funding levels anticipated in the adopted 2006 Strategic Plan.

Recommendation: Approve an amendment to the Nolte design contract to cover unforeseen work for the Puerto Suello Hill multi-use path and sound-absorbing soundwall final design and construction packaging, not to exceed \$451,200.